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PATENT APPLICATION #8/10
10-04-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
SATOSHI KOIZUMI, ET AL.) Examiner: Brett T. Ozga
Application No.: 09/631,709) Group Art Unit: 1651
Filed: August 3, 2000)
For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING)
GDP-FUCOSE) September 28, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (C)

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is respectfully invited to PCT WO 99/36555 listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the listed PCT publication is enclosed.

The 99/36555 PCT publication discloses a process for enzymatically producing GDP-fucose from GKDM, and a process for producing GKDM from GDP-mannose and then producing GDP-fucose from the GKDM.

The present invention also relates to processes of producing GKDM and GDP-fucose. In contrast, in the production processes of the pending claims, an enzyme course is not a purified enzyme, but is rather a culture broth of a microorganism or a treated product of the culture broth. Therefore, for at least that reason, the claimed processes differ in kind from those of the PCT publication.

Moreover, the salient feature of the present invention relies on Applicants' discovery that unstable GKDM can be formed and accumulated in an aqueous medium, and that such GKDM can be incorporated into cells of a microorganism to thereby become a substrate of wcaG gene product so that GDP-fucose is produced. Since such was unknown in the prior art, the present invention is neither disclosed nor suggested by the PCT publication.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

We also enclose a check for the required fee of \$180.00 to cover the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)(2). Please charge any additional fee required for the extension, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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